



An Affiliate of the American Orchid Society

Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society

The purpose of the Society is to stimulate interest, provide education, and enable the exchange of information among those interested in all aspects of orchid culture.

VOLUME 71

ISSUE 12

DECEMBER 2021

Members can cash in at 'Orchids Rock!'

Now is the time to start grooming and preparing your orchids that will be blooming for our January show.

This year we have \$1,500 in prize money to award! In addition to the Best in Show orchid grown by a hobbyist (\$500 prize) and the Best Cut Flower, dendrobium and cattleya grown by FLOS members only (\$250.00 prize for each), we have a new award.

Allen Black, a well known and respected orchid grower, has generously offered to sponsor a new award offering a \$250 prize for Best in Show Brassavola species or hybrid. The awarded plant must have at least one Brassavola parent and former Brassavola species *Rhyncholaelia Digbyana/glauca* and their hybrids do not count toward the one Brassavola parent criteria.

To register your orchid for these awards, you must bring your plants to the Broward County Convention Center between 3 and 8 p.m. on Jan. 19.

Also, a reminder to sell and turn in monies for your presale tickets. Please contact Vickie Hallock at wickirae@aol.com to register as a show volunteer.

A BIG thank you to those members who have already registered to volunteer, but we still need many more to sign up.



With your help, in whatever way you can, we become greater and more able to continue to do all the wonderful and fun things that we do. Thank you! I look forward to seeing you at our holiday party and again in January at our show.

Feel free to contact me with questions at michaelschaberl@comcast.net or 954-683-9615.

– **MICHAEL SCHABERL**
Show Chair

President's Message

November was our first in-person/Zoom meeting with about 40 members on site.



We were all excited to see each other after our long absence. Mary Gerritsen gave an entertaining presentation on Zoom about her adventures searching for slipper orchids.

This month, we will not be having a meeting at the church, but instead, will celebrate with dancing under the stars at our annual holiday party at Oceanic in Pompano Beach. I look forward to seeing you on Dec. 12!

Starting in January, as we prepare for our big show, all meetings will be in person with a live speaker, ribbon judging and a raffle. Refreshments need to be individually wrapped until further notice.

I wish you all a joyous holiday season!

– **JOAN CONNORS**

Upcoming events

DEC. 12: Our holiday party is at 6:30 p.m. at Oceanic, 250 N. Pompano Beach Blvd., Pompano Beach. Get free valet parking with password "orchids." A big thank you to Sue Mitchell-Greig and the party committee for all the planning that made our annual get-together possible.

JAN. 10: Join us at 7:30 p.m. at the church for our monthly meeting. The featured speaker will be Christine Morales, discussing *Dendrobium Section Formosae*.

JAN. 21-23: The 63rd Annual Orchids Rock! Show and Sale at the Broward County Convention Center.



Preparing your collection for winter

Winter arrives on Dec. 21. I have a routine for many aspects of my orchids' care because it is the best way to avoid slacking. That routine changes with the seasons, but especially during winter.



The days are the shortest, providing a lot less light needed for our orchids to grow. The temperatures are the lowest of the year, which means many orchids will go dormant or reduce their growth altogether. Vandas and Phals and many hybrids typically grow year-round, but even for them the pace of growth slows dramatically.

This means that fertilizing is a lot less important in January and February. I do not fertilize any plant that is dormant like some *Cattleya* species, many *Dendrobium* species, my dormant *Catasetums* etc. *Cattleya* hybrids usually grow year-round, so I continue fertilizing them, but at much lower rates. January is statistically our coldest month and avoiding fertilizing in January is not a bad idea.

If you have plants that are growing well but not blooming, the odds are that they need more light. Winter is the perfect time of the year to increase light exposure as they will have time to gradually adjust to higher sunlight levels by exposing them to the weakest sun of the year now. You can't do that in the summer when the sun is at its harsh and most ruthless.

As a general rule, I water my plants a lot less in the winter, too.

Keeping track of overnight temperatures is important. Orchids with wet feet on cold nights is a recipe for disaster as they can quickly develop pathogens. When I hear that we will have temperatures below 55 degrees, I make sure my orchids have a medium that is dry or near dry when the time comes. So, check the weather forecast nightly so you can protect your plants. (Find more information on cold sensitive orchids in my article in the November newsletter.)

I do not repot in winter. Repotting is always a stressful exercise for any orchid and they need to be ready to establish themselves quickly after repotting. In winter, most are half asleep or totally dormant and so repotting during these months can be fatal. It is the worst time of the year to repot.

Some of your plants may have to be moved around. I put my dormant *Catasetums* and my *Den. aggregatum*, *Den. anosmum* as well as my *Laelia anceps*, *C. tenuis* underneath an overhang where no rain can hit them. Some species need higher light in the winter to mimic their natural environment as the tree canopy may let more light shine through during that time. You have to research your own species' needs to determine that.

Bottom line: You will have a lot less work overall to do on your orchids this time of the year.

Olivier Turina became a FLOS member in 2014 and a board member in 2020. Send your growing questions to OlivierFTL@gmail.com.

Olivier's award winner

In November, Olivier Turina was thrilled to receive a First Class Certificate from the American Orchid Society for his *Catasetum schmidtianum*. The FCC is the highest flower-quality award for an orchid species or hybrids. Judge Louis Ladyga, who has more than 50 years of experience judging orchids, said it was the most beautiful *Ctism. schmidtianum* he had ever seen. The specimen had 21 outstanding flowers and received a score of 90.



American Orchid Society
1991 Old Carter Road
Coral Gables, FL 33156
(305) 740-2010, Fax (305) 740-2111

Award Number: 20211871
Provisional: _____ Date: 11/20/21
Photo/Show: IFF/IC
Plant: *Catasetum schmidtianum*
Clonal name: Tommy Beckler
Parentage: _____

Comments: _____

Previous Awards received by this plant:
Has plant been submitted previously for AOS judging on the same inflorescence? Yes No

All entries are subject to Rules and Regulations as outlined in the Handbook of Judging and Exhibitions, published by the American Orchid Society.

Measurements in centimeters	Width, cm.	Length, cm.
Natural Spread:	Horiz. 0.0	Vert. 6.8
Dorsal Sepal:	2.0	5.4
Petal:	2.2	5.4
Lateral Sepal (Synsepal):	2.2	5.5
Lip (Pouch):	3.0	2.4

Description: beginning with the number of flowers and buds and inflorescence
Twenty-one outstanding male flowers, well-arranged in two pendulous inflorescences up to 48 cm; dorsal chateaux overlaid mahogany; finely spotted mahogany; petals chateaux spotted mahogany; lip saccate, chateaux overlaid mahogany; midlobe obovate red centrally, side lobes yellow, fringed and spotted burgandy; column chateaux, finely spotted burgandy, anther cap cream; substance firm, texture same.

Award: FCC and Score: 90 points
Chairman's Name: Sandi Jlock-Hettinger
Chairman's Signature: *Sandi Jlock-Hettinger*
Photographer: Tom Kuligowski
Exhibitor Name and Address: Olivier Turina

American Orchid Society Award Form Revision A.02



November ribbon judging

Orchid name	Entrant	Award
Alca. Sunday Best 'Yellow'	Tim Russo	Blue
Brassovola subufolia	William Bellas	Blue
Ctism. tigrinum	Olivier Turina	Blue
Lepanthes calodictyon	Vicki Hallock	Blue
Mokara Gaopeksuan x V. Rasri Gold	Lindsay/Brown	Blue
Rlc. Chomthong Fancy	Angie Bondarenko	Blue
Specklinia recula	Vicki Hallock	Blue
Den. Caesar 'Pink'	Olivier Turina	Cultural
Onc. Sharry Baby	Tim Russo	Cultural
V. Piyarat x V V. Thonglor (1974)		
V V. Thonglor (1974)	Sara Singer	Cultural
Bc. Pastoral 'Rose'	Claire Garrett	Red
Blc Bryce Canyon		
Splendiferous' AM/AOS	Angie Bondarenko	Red
V. Boschii	Olivier Turina	Red

There will be no meeting or judging in December. The next live ribbon judging will be on Jan. 10 at the church.

Keiki Club: Volunteer for the big show



Although previous days had been very rainy, Nov. 20th dawned breezy and balmy, enabling 19 FLOS Keikis and 10 helpers to assemble and enjoy Olivier Turina's gorgeous patio, pool area, greenhouse and other growing areas.

Olivier gave a brief presentation using three orchids to explain the difference between species and hybrids. Two were species and the third was a hybrid cultivated from them in full bloom. He provided pictures of the flowers of the two parent plants so we could see the features the hybrid had inherited. This show and tell was most effective and interesting.

Olivier's vast array of orchids and his creative displays are so impressive and beautiful, especially his many catasetums and stanhopeas. Of course, he was on hand to offer explanations regarding their care and cultivation and the Keikis had many questions. Seeing the growing areas of seasoned FLOS members provides the Keikis with ideas to create their own orchid environments.

Refreshments were served and we had a super raffle with orchids donated by Jose Esposito from Soroa and other FLOS members. Also, Dave Thompson donated one of his beautiful handmade wooden baskets to raffle! Everyone left with a plant, eager to either mount or repot and one of our Mini-Keikis took home the

basket! Thank you, Olivier, for hosting this wonderful event.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Many Keikis have signed up for the holiday party on Dec. 12 and we're anxious for them to experience what is always a delightful evening, mingling and getting to know everyone.

Next month's show is almost upon us and the Keikis will be gathering soon to plan the welcome display. Several good ideas have been shared already so it is sure to be a winner! We encourage everyone to get on the volunteer list for the show to learn, meet other orchid enthusiasts and have fun. Also, sell your tickets so that you can attend the Preview Party! It's another fabulous event that you don't want to miss.

FEBRUARY MEETING: The Keikis will not meet in December or January due to the many FLOS events that are on-going. We will, however, be convening at Scott Peplin's Orchid Bar and Grill in February for one of his fun and lively presentations on a date to be determined. Happy Growing, everyone!

Email questions to Jill at jsmith8146@comcast.net, Rick at willbell@aol.com or Karen at ispo3008@gmail.com.

– **JILL SMITH, RICK BELLAS,
KAREN FLEISHER**
Keiki Club Chairs

Renew your membership

Last call to renew! We tucked an envelope inside this issue, so get that check in the mail!

Members enjoy many benefits:

- Monthly newsletter, delivered via email or USPS.
- Monthly meetings on Zoom or socializing with other orchid lovers while enjoying a presentation, snacks, and orchid judging.
- Welcome packet.
- Free loans of books from our library.

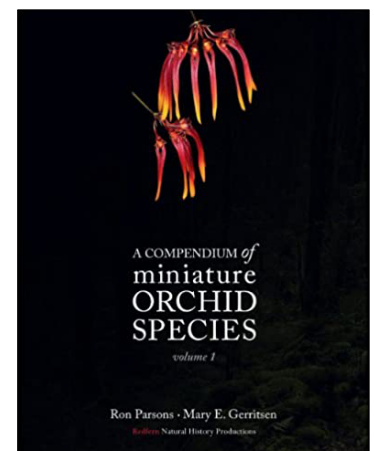
Renewals are \$20 (single member) and \$25 (dual membership). Go to members.flos.org.

– **LUANNE BETZ**
Membership Chair

New orchid books to read

Three new titles have been added to our ever-growing library collection: "A Compendium of Miniature Orchid Species, Volumes I and II" by Ron Parsons and Mary E. Gerritsen, and "The Natural Genus: Vandas," by Martin R. Motes.

The collection covers all levels of expertise. Books can be read or checked out at our monthly meetings. View the catalog at FLOS.org/bookbuddy/BookBuddy.htm.



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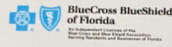


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Thank you to our kitchen volunteers: Kathy Homann, Deb Johnson and Fran Renguso.

Website: www.flos.org

Newsletter Editor: Doreen Christensen

Treasurer: Brian Boyle

Corresponding Secretary: Jill Smith

Recording Secretary: Sue Mitchell-Greig

2nd Vice President: Luanne Betz (Membership)

1st Vice President: Vicki Hallock (Programs)

President: Joan Connors

Directions: From I-95 take East Oakland Park Blvd, go 2.4

miles, turn left on NE 20th Ave. Or take US-1 (Federal Hwy.)

to Oakland Park Blvd. west for two blocks, turn north on NE

20th Ave. Park in the rear of the church which is on the NW

corner of Oakland Park Blvd. and NE 20th Ave.

1955 East Oakland Park Blvd. Fort Lauderdale, FL 33306

Time: 7:30 pm. Place: Christ Lutheran Church Social Hall,

Regular Meetings: Second Monday of each month.

Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society
P.O. Box 4677, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33338

